

What is claimed is:

1. A lead assembly comprising:
a lead body extending from a proximal end to a distal end, the lead body including a conductor coil disposed therein; and
at least one electrode electrically coupled with the conductor coil and located entirely on an intermediate portion of the lead body between the proximal end and the distal end;
wherein the electrode has a surface area less than about 1.2 mm^2 .
2. The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein the electrode has a surface area of $.8 \text{ mm}^2 - 1.2 \text{ mm}^2$.
3. The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein the at least one electrode comprises a conductive sleeve partially masked by the lead body, the conductive sleeve having an exposed electrode surface.
4. The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, further comprising at least one drug elution collar disposed adjacent to the at least one electrode.
5. The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, further comprising a first drug elution collar and a second drug elution collar, wherein the first drug elution collar is disposed proximate to a first side of the electrode and the second drug elution collar is disposed proximate to a second side of the electrode.
6. The lead assembly as recited in claim 5, wherein the intermediate portion is adapted to be disposed within the atrium of a heart, wherein the at least one electrode is disposed on the intermediate portion.

7. The lead assembly as recited in claim 5, wherein the first drug elution collar has a first drug therein, the second drug elution collar has a second drug therein, and the first drug is different than the second drug.
8. The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, further comprising a porous member disposed on the lead body proximate to the at least one electrode.
9. The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein a portion of the at least one electrode is offset from an outer surface of the lead body.
10. The lead assembly as recited in claim 9, wherein the surface area of the at least one electrode extends about a circumference of the lead body.
11. The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein a portion of the least one electrode is flush with an outer surface of the lead body.
12. The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein the at least one electrode comprises an electrode for at least one of pacing and sensing which includes a wire filament disposed about a circumference of the lead body.
13. The lead assembly as recited in claim 12, wherein the wire filament is bonded with the lead body.
14. The lead assembly as recited in claim 13, further comprising at least one drug elution collar disposed adjacent to the at least one electrode.

15. The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein a portion of the conductor coil extends through the lead body and around the circumference of the lead body.

16. The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein the at least one electrode includes a first electrode disposed at the distal end of the lead, and a second electrode disposed between the distal end and the proximal end of the lead, wherein the first electrode is adapted to be disposed within a ventricle and is cathodic in polarity, and the second electrode is adapted to be disposed within an atrium and is anodic in polarity.

17. The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein the at least one electrode includes a first electrode disposed at the distal end of the lead, and a second electrode disposed between the distal end and the proximal end of the lead, wherein the first electrode is adapted to be disposed within a ventricle and is anodic in polarity, and the second electrode is adapted to be disposed within an atrium and is cathodic in polarity.

18. A lead assembly comprising:

a lead body extending from a proximal end to a distal end and defined in part by an outer circumference, the lead body including at least one conductor coil defining a lumen and disposed within the lead body; and

at least one electrode for at least one of pacing and sensing electrically coupled with the at least one conductor coil, wherein the at least one electrode includes a wire filament disposed about the outer circumference of the lead body.

19. The lead assembly as recited in claim 18, wherein the wire filament is bonded with the lead body.

20. The lead assembly as recited in claim 18, further comprising at least one drug elution collar disposed adjacent to the wire filament.

21. The lead assembly as recited in claim 18, wherein a portion of the at least one conductor coil extends through the lead body from within the lead body to the outer circumference of the lead body.

22. A lead assembly comprising:

a lead body extending from a proximal end to a distal end, the lead body including a conductor disposed therein; and

at least one electrode electrically coupled with the conductor, wherein the at least one electrode includes a conductive sleeve having an exposed electrode surface surrounding the lead body and having an area of less than about 1.2 mm².

23. The lead assembly as recited in claim 22, further comprising at least one drug elution collar disposed adjacent to the at least one electrode.

24. The lead assembly as recited in claim 22, further comprising a first drug elution collar and a second drug elution collar, wherein the first drug elution collar is disposed proximate to a first end of the sleeve and the second drug elution collar is disposed proximate to a second end of the sleeve.

25. The lead assembly as recited in claim 24, wherein the first drug elution collar and the second drug elution collar straddle the exposed electrode surface.

26. The lead assembly as recited in claim 24, wherein the first drug elution collar has a first drug therein, the second drug elution collar has a second drug therein, and the first drug is different than the second drug.

27. The lead assembly as recited in claim 22, further comprising a porous member disposed on the lead body proximate to the at least one electrode.

28. The lead assembly as recited in claim 22, wherein the exposed electrode surface is offset from a surface of the lead body.

29. The lead assembly as recited in claim 22, wherein the exposed electrode surface is flush with a surface of the lead body.